

Thurston County Libertarian Party

For Immediate Release

Date: October 16, 2017

Contact: Chris Rohloff; Media Relations LPTC

Email: ChrisLPTC@gmail.com

Public Meeting; Per Mile Tax

Join members of the Libertarian Party of Thurston County in fighting the state's new attempt to tax our drive to work. Members of LPTC and the Libertarian Party of Kitsap County will be in attendance at the open meeting regarding the per mile tax on Tuesday morning 10/17, at 8:30 am

"The cities artificially limit housing supply with red tape, and anyone not making enough to live in the city is forced to accept a longer commute. Now the State wants to give them a new tax to go with their commute. We must stop taxing people's drive to work." (Chris Rohloff, LPTC).

There are many problems with the State's proposed new per mile tax; we will address the fact that it disproportionately burdens those who can't afford to live in the city.

Zoning, property taxes, and red tape all contribute to the skyrocketing cost of housing in the cities. These are decisions made by city leaders which directly affect the lower income earner living in the city. Not surprisingly, not all poor live in the city with mass transit options as noted in a Brookings Institute Study, "All together, suburbs accounted for nearly half (48 percent) of the total national increase in the poor population over that time period."

(<https://www.brookings.edu/testimonies/the-changing-geography-of-us-poverty/>)

They now will face a new tax because of the cities choices that kept or forced them out. The state has used the reasoning that with new more fuel efficient vehicles, they need to raise revenue to pay to fund infrastructure. However, consider that the State of Washington has the second highest gas tax in the country, and in a recent study had the twelfth most roads in disrepair.

Does the state really need to increase tax revenue to fund infrastructure by taxing our drive to work, or should they first determine better ways in which they can spend the money that already have?

We must find a way to stop taxing people's drive to work.

END

If you object to receiving a news release from us please reply, and we will remove your name from our list. Thank you.